

With Mr. Jones' Compliments.

Borough of Southend-on-Sea.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF

MR. G. F. JONES, M.R.C.S., L.S.A.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

—: 1894. :—

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA :

Printed at the ECHO Office, 2, Clarence Road.

WESTCLIFFE HOUSE,

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

TO THE BURGESSES OF SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

The Health Committee of the Town Council have recommended that my Annual Report should not be printed.

I am, in consequence, receiving reports from parts of the County that this act is necessitated by the enormous amount of infectious disease that is spread over the Borough.

In justice to myself and to refute the insinuations of the inaccuracies it contains (which I deny) I have decided to print and circulate it.

This report (and I am happy to congratulate the Burgesses on the fact) is the best the Town has had, and its suppression does not appear to be done for the Town's good but to serve individual purposes.

I am,

Yours truly,

G. F. JONES,

M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors of the Borough of Southend-on-Sea.

GENTLEMEN,
I have pleasure in presenting my Third Annual Report.

POPULATION.
The population in April, 1881 was 7,979; in April, 1891, 12,333; this by the census rate of increase gives on the first of July, 1894, 14,212. During the first week in July, 1894, the Council took the opportunity of having a house census taken with the result that there were 2,963 inhabited houses, 90 uninhabited houses, and 77 in course of erection. Allowing 5·2 persons to each inhabited house the result is a population of 15,407. Adding to the above 15,407 the moderate number of 2,500 in respect of visitors makes an average population of 17,907. I have calculated the death rate upon each of the above estimates of population, but for the purpose of the other statistics I have adopted the census estimate of 14,212.

BIRTHS.
In 1893 the number registered was 392, and in 1894, 365; males 202, females 163; being unaccountably 27 less than last year, showing a rate per 1,000 on the larger population of 23·69, and on the census population of 25·67.

DEATHS AND DEATH RATE.
The number of deaths were 204; of this number fourteen were visitors, and accordingly I deduct them for the purpose of calculating the death rate, but I add six in respect of the number of Southend Paupers who died at the Rochford Union Workhouse. Of the total of 196 thus obtained 51 were children under one year of age, and 57 were of the age of 65 and upwards.

The above figures give the death rate as follows:—
On the average population of 17,907 ... 10·94
On the population (excluding visitors) of 15,407 ... 12·72
On population calculated in the census rate of increase of 14,212 ... 13·78
Deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 born ... 139·72
The following is useful for summary comparison:—

	1894.	1893.	1892.
Death rate ...	13·7	14·0	19·3
Zymotic death rate ...	1·6	2·4	3·7
Birth rate ...	25·6	28·8	26·6
Infantile mortality ...	139·7	107·0	151·0
Zymotic case rate ...	15·9	24·3	19·6

AREA.
The area of the Borough is 3,441 acres, and the average number of persons per acre is increased from 4·6 last to 4·13 this year.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The returns for these diseases are as follows:—

	Total No. of cases.	Imptd.	Dths.	Death per 1000.
Smallpox ...	4	2	0	0·00
Measles ...	...	...	...	0·00
Scarlet Fever ...	31	6	0	0·00
Diphtheria ...	44	7	6	0·42
Whooping cough ...	...	...	4	0·28
Diarrhoea and Dysentery... Fever	149	18	12	0·84
				1·68

There were eight deaths uncertified.

I feel gratified to report that the notifications for each disease have diminished from what they were last year, the total death rate being also reduced.

ENTERIC FEVER.
This disease has not been so generally severe as last year, many cases being of a mild character. My opinion is still as expressed last year that the sewers are mainly the cause. Reference is made to this under "Sewerage."

SCARLET FEVER.
Scarlet Fever has been of an exceptionally mild type. A case or two at a time has developed in various parts of the Borough. I have been all the year of the opinion that very mild cases have not been recognised. As an illustration, a child at boarding school, in the summer, without apparent cause, sickened with the disease in a mild form, and, on examination, I found that the maid attending the school, and who slept at home, was approaching desquamation. On examination at her mother's house I found three children were desquamating, two of them attending daily the Board School. The parents had no idea that the children had even been ill. So far as I could trace no other cases arose from these.

Diarrhoea and dysentery and whooping cough, though not notifiable, give very satisfactory and small death rate.

CHOLERA .
I am pleased to state that no case of cholera has occurred during the year. In February, Dr. Theodore Thompson, of the Medical Department, visited the Borough and conferred with the Health Committee, and the recommendations made by him received the attention of that body; amongst other things the committee caused to be published the annual public notice relating to the removal of refuse matter, and giving special instructions as to the frequent, removal, and destruction of refuse from the premises of butchers, fishmongers, and poultry dealers and others. A special notice was also published requiring the periodical removal from all mews and similar places of manure and other offensive matter.

INQUESTS.
Thirteen inquests (9 visitors) were held during the year.

WATERWORKS.
WATER.

In consequence of the Southend Waterworks Company proposing to exercise their statutory powers for making regulations for the prevention of waste and misuse of water, and for prescribing the nature and workmanship, &c. of fittings and apparatus, the Town Council are making efforts to obtain a better and more effective supply of water for waterclosets and for the flushing thereof

WELLS, &c.
I am glad to be informed that the Health Sub-Committee intend to do what is necessary to complete the improvements yet remaining to be done with regard to wells W.C.'s, dust bins, and removal of refuse, particulars whereof are herein stated.

During the year 16 wells have been closed. Analyses have been ordered in 32 cases; all but three have been condemned as totally unfit for domestic purposes. In the case of these three the recommendation of the analyst has been that the water should be filtered before use.

WATERCLOSETS.

By a house to house inspection it was ascertained that there were still 331 waterclosets without a proper water supply or flushing apparatus. 242 have been properly provided, 89 remaining to be dealt with.

DUST BINS, ASH PITS.

The dust and refuse removal has been carried out under the direction of a superintendent. The Borough has been divided into districts, which are regularly visited, no portion being left beyond a week. In the busiest time of the year as much as twice a week, and, if required, more frequent collections are made. The collection has been effectually done. In consequence I have had very few complaints. The yards are not now as they used to be—strewn about with surplus refuse, though much still remains to be done to make all perfect. This extra cleanliness and supervision on the part of the Council is bearing good fruit, a more general cleanliness prevailing than was the case two years ago.

SEWERAGE.

The Local Government Board have, to prevent the Council losing by lapse of time the opportunity to purchase the perpetual right of user of the site for storage tank, sanctioned the carrying out of a part of the land portion of the sewerage scheme, practically consisting of a high and low level, the latter being that portion of the Borough situated below high water mark, which will receive the sewerage into a separate tank, to be pumped into the high level system, and discharged at special states of the tide below low water mark, the situation of the outlet being dependent upon float experiments to determine the different sets of the tide, which are now being carried out. This alteration, will, I feel sure, remove a continual source of danger to which the Town is subjected, for it is in this low level portion in communication with the sea that I invariably look for the development of contagious diseases, from which part the germs are carried by the upward currents through the sewers to the higher levels of the Borough.

HAMLET VALLEY SEWERAGE.

A desirable addition, which has the approval of the Local Government Board, has been carried out by the construction of a 21 inch pipe sewer for the purpose of improving the outlet for this area. I have no doubt that this will prevent the recurrence of flooding, which has during heavy storms taken place in this locality.

ROYAL TERRACE SEWER.

The old brick drain which formerly received the sewerage from this terrace has been removed, and a new pipe sewer with improved connections from the houses has been substituted, thereby effecting a much-needed improvement.

PRITTLEWELL TANK SYSTEM.

I desire again to call attention to this part of the Borough. The sewage from this area could be received into a tank, and pumped into the present system. The Council could then abolish the privies

(numbering about 39) which are a source of great danger.

Another advantage of a pumping engine here is that water from the brook adjacent could be utilised for flushing and cleansing purposes through the whole of that portion of the main system, which commences at the top of Prittlewell Hill.

SEWERS.

The disinfection and flushing which have been carried out more this year than ever before has practically limited disease (particularly enteric fever) to the water line in that portion of the Borough south of the Tilbury Railway, and especially that in connection with the Marine Parade Sewer.

PUBLIC SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

The Town Council have entered into a contract for the construction of underground W.C.s on Royal Hill, and I am informed that the work will be completed before the commencement of the ensuing season. This is a step in the right direction, and I earnestly trust the Corporation will make similar provision in other parts of the Borough where numbers of people mostly congregate.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCHYARD.

On the sixth of July last I submitted to the Health Committee a special report as to the condition of this burial ground, and as to the necessity of the closing thereof. I understand a representation was subsequently made to the Home Secretary with a view to the necessary steps being taken to effect this object, but up to this time the Home Office has not moved in the matter. It is of the greatest importance in the interests of public health that no further delay should take place, as the continual use of this burial ground is a source of the greatest danger, especially as the churchyard is situated in the most populous part of the Borough. I deem it necessary here to state that in my report of July last I then stated "in my opinion too many interments had already taken place."

CEMETERY.

The Town Council are negotiating for the purchase of a site for a Borough Cemetery, and I am sanguine that a suitable position will be procured within a reasonable time.

PIER, BEACH, AND FORESHORE.

During the year I have made special reports which include the necessity of improved means for the drainage of the Pier Pavilion, and for the removal of refuse from the beach and foreshore, and for the discontinuance of the deposit of refuse thereon.

With reference to the Pier Pavilion, Mr. Mansergh has been asked to submit a scheme for the purpose of carrying out my suggestion, and steps have been taken to bring about the desired improvement as to the beach and the foreshore.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, MILKSHOPS, AND BAKE-HOUSES.

During the year public notices have been issued and steps taken for the purpose of perfecting the registration of premises used for the above purposes.

I understand that negotiations are soon likely to be entered into for the purchase of land for the erection of Corporation Stables, and for the purchase of a store yard, and I believe there is

an intention to utilize a portion of the site for erection of a refuse destructor, the need for which I have referred to in previous reports.

The Town Council are promoting in the ensuing Session of Parliament a Bill for various public improvements, and advantage is proposed to be taken of the opportunity to apply for increased powers relating to sanitary matters and streets and buildings, including a provision enabling the Corporation, by establishing abattoirs, to abolish all existing private slaughterhouses within the Borough.

WORK DONE BY MYSELF.

2 inspections of whole district with
Inspector of Nuisances.
225 special visits to houses.
236 inspections of premises.
87 testings of houses seen in operation.
23 stables inspected.
14 Slaughterhouses inspected.
6 cowsheds "
5 dairies "
16 bakehouses "
32 fruit shops "
20 fish shops "
20 fruit stalls & barrows,"
27 milk shops "
5 mews "
39 gipsy vans "
12 urinals "
13 sanitary certificates issued.
2 cases of overcrowding enquired into.
1 case of cruelty to children enquired into.
2 Local Government Board Enquires
attended.
12 houses closed as unfit for habitation.
115 notices to surveyor
89 Notices to Inspector of Nuisances.
227 visits to Sanitary Hospital.

WORK DONE BY INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES DURING 1894.

Notices served and personal interviews.	219
Nuisances removed or abased	116
Houses tested... ..	213
Work done and retested ...	198
Premises inspected	405
Visits to slaughterhouses ...	23
" bakehouses	27
" milk shops	37
" fish shops	32
" fruit shops	38
Vans removed from St. Helens	
Road	8
Patients removed to Hospital	74
Rooms and houses disinfected	141
Samples of water to analyst	9
Goods from infected houses destroyed	4
Privies replaced by W.C.s ...	23
Cesspools filled in	4
2 cwt radishes destroyed.	
98 lbs. cherries destroyed.	
3 bottles cockles destroyed.	

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES.

I must again call attention to the reference made in my former report as to assistance being provided for the Inspector of Nuisances. Having regard to the continual growth of the Borough, and

the great importance of the duties of the Inspector of Nuisances being carried out, I trust the Council will take into consideration the advisability of appointing an assistant or additional inspector.

SANITARY HOSPITAL.

The Local Government Board have sanctioned the borrowing a sum of money for the erection of more pavilions for patients, nurses residence, a steam disinfecter, &c., which, when completed, the Council may be congratulated upon possessing an infectious disease hospital replete in every way and large enough I hope to meet all requirements for years to come.

Patients remaining in Hospital Jan. 1st, 1894	4
" admitted during the year	80
" remaining Dec. 31st	1

Patients admitted from	deaths.
Enteric fever ... 57	7
Diphtheria ... 5	
Scarlet Fever ... 17	
Smallpox .. 5	

The total number of days that patients were in the Hospital was 3,021, averaging 35.94 days to each patient.

13 cases were admitted as parish patients.

During the year the Council have arranged with the Rochford Board of Guardians that they will undertake the treatment of all pauper cases of infectious disease occurring in the Borough. The Rural Sanitary Medical Officer on the Relieving Officer's report visiting the patients and, being satisfied, transfers the order to me, the Council then taking all responsibility of removal, &c. This arrangement has worked very well, there being no more delay than would occur in the removal of an ordinary patient.

Accompanying this Report are the Local Government Board returns of "Tables of Deaths" and table of Population, Births, and new cases of infectious diseases.

I remain, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. F. JONES.

M.R.C.S., L.S.A.

The following report by the Building Inspector shows the large amount of work that is going on.

Number of houses practically completed	109
Do. in course of erection	92
Number of dwelling houses completed ..	155
Do. with shops	5
Number of additions and alterations to houses	20
Length of houses drains (6 in. 4 in. pipes), the whole of which has been twice tested, 23,333 feet.	
Name of Estate.	Lgth of Roads Feet
Balmoral Estate	2101
Borough Estate	2852
Avenue Estate	570
Milton Hall Estate	200
Roads made by the Council.	2286
Lgth of Paths Feet	4572
Lgth & Size Sewer	3089
18 in pipe sewer	570
9 in. drain	200
9 in., 12 in. 21 in. sewer	9 in., 12 in. 21 in. sewer
8009	16018
5440	

(A) Table of Deaths during the Year 1894, in the Borough of Southend-on-Sea Urban Sanitary District classified according to Diseases, Areas and Localities.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (Col- umns for Population and Births are in Table B (a))	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUBJOINED AGES.							MORTALITY FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.												
	At all ages (b)	Under 1 year (c)	1 and under 5 (d)	5 and under 15 (e)	15 and under 25 (f)	25 and under 65 (g)	65 and up- wards (h)	i	Diphtheria	Enteric or Typhoid Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea and Dysentery	Rheumatic Fever	Phtisis	Bronchitis and Pleurisy	Treat Disease	Injuries	All other Diseases	TOTAL
S. JOHN'S	95	21	8	3	4	33	26	Under 5 5 upwds.	2	.....	3	1	1	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	12	29
ALL SAINTS	32	11	1	3	1	8	8	Under 5 5 upwds.	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	9	12
S. MARY'S	59	19	7	1	4	11	17	Under 5 5 upwds.	1	.....	1	1	1	.....	.....	4	.....	2	16	26
NAZARETH HOUSE ..	8	.....	1	.....	.....	1	6	Under 5 5 upwds.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	2	20	33
SANITARY HOSPITAL	7	.....	1	2	2	2	.....	Under 5 5 upwds.	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	1
VICTORIA HOSPITAL...	3	.....	1	1	.....	1	.....	Under 5 5 upwds.	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	6
TOTALS	204	51	19	10	11	56	57	Under 5 5 upwds.	3	11	4	3	2	.....	.....	16	.....	3	38	70

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Deaths occurring outside the District among persons belonging thereto	6																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
---	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

(B) *TABLE OF Population, Births, and of New Cases of Infectious Sickness, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1894, in the Borough of Southend-on-Sea Urban District; classified according to DISEASES, AGES and LOCALITIES.*

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at all Ages.		Estimated to middle of 1894.	Registered Births	Aged under 5 or over 5.	New cases of Sickness in each Locality coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.							Number of such Cases Removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
	Census 1891.

